

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 02907 121713Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 /081 W

----- 103618 /41

R 121653Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5584  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ALGIERS 2907

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AG  
SUBJECT: BOUMEDIENE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ALGERIA

1. ON DECEMBER 10, BOUMEDIENE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ALGERIA, ENDING STATE OF EXCEPTION WHICH BEGAN WITH HIS COUP D'ETAT IN JUNE 1965. BOUMEDIENE WAS ONLY CANDIDATE. AS WAS CASE IN EARLIER VOTES ON NATIONAL CHARTER AND CONSTITUTION, VOTERS WERE GIVEN GREEN "YES" AND YELLOW "NO" BALLOTS ASND WERE INSTRUCTED TO PUT ONE IN BOX.

2. OFFICIAL RETURNS SHOW THAT EXERCISE RESULTED IN 95.82 PERCENT OF 7,890,940 ELIGIBLE VOTERS TURNING OUT TO VOTE IN ALGERIA AND ELSEWHERE IN WORLD. 7,469,472, OR 95.23 PERCENT OF THOSE ELIGIBLE, VOTED "YES," 33,732 "NO" AND REMAINDER CAST INVALID BALLOTS. AS IN NATIONAL CHARTER AND CONSTITUTION BALLOTING, ALGIERS TURNOUT OF 75 PERCENT LAGGED BEHIND NATIONAL AVERAGE, ALTHOUGH IT WAS UP FROM THE 64 PERCENT ANNOUNCED FOR THE CONSTITUTION. ALL FIGURES REPRESENTED IMPROVEMENT, FROM REGIME'S VIEWPOINT, OVER THOSE PRODUCED BY CHARTER AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUMS.

3. EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION, AND THAT OF SOURCES WHO WERE ABLE TO ENTER POLLING PLACES, WAS THAT, DESPITE BEAUTIFUL WEATHER, ALGIERS TURNOUT WAS LIGHT, IF PERHAPS A  
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BIT BETTER THAN FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM. (RUMORS

IN ALGIERS PUT "REAL" FIGURE FOR ALGIERS TURNOUT ON  
CONSTITUTION AT BETWEEN 25 AND 40 PERCENT.) REGIME TOOK  
LONGER TO ANNOUNCE FINAL ELECTION FIGURES  
THAN IT HAD DONE PREVIOUSLY, AND REPORTED TESTINESS OF  
INTERIOR MINISTER ABDELGHANI IN DECEMBER 11 PRESS  
CONFERENCE ON ELECTION MAY REFLECT OFFICIAL INDECISION  
AND UNEASE OVER ALGIERS SHOWING.

4. COMMENT: REGIME'S SELF-INSTITUTIONALIZATION  
EXERCISE THUS THREE-QUARTERS COMPLETE. FINAL STEP  
WILL BE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY.  
ALTHOUGH CANDIDATES IN THESE PROCEEDINGS WILL  
ALL BE FLN MEMBERS, VOTERS WILL AT LEAST BE CONFRONTED  
WITH A CHOICE BETWEEN TWO CANDIDATES INSTEAD OF SIMPLE  
YES-NO OPTION. LYNE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760458-0679  
**From:** ALGIERS  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 76  
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**Subject:** BOUMEDIENE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ALGERIA  
**TAGS:** PINT, PGOV, AG, (BOUMEDIENE, HOUARI)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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